

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

25X1

SECRET

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT Renewed Activity in the Former
V-2 Rocket Plant at Ballenstedt
in Harz

DATE DISTR. 7 March 1955

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE OF INFO.

REQUIREMENT NO. RD

25X1

PLACE ACQUIRED

REFERENCES

DATE ACQUIRED

This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The East German Reichsbahn is now operating special laborer's trains from Bernburg, Guesten, Schierstedt and Groeningen to the town of Ballenstedt, in the Harz, where the former V-2 underground rocket plant is reportedly again in operation. It is not known whether V-2 rockets are now being produced there or whether the plant site has been reactivated and taken over for some other type of production. However, the name of Wismut has been mentioned frequently with the activity conducted at this site. 25X1 reportedly is not a mini installation.
2. The Reichsbahn, which formerly operated one train a day in each direction from Ballenstedt, now runs five or six trains per day in each direction at the following time intervals, which coincide closely with the changes of work shifts at the plant: Two trains between 4 and 5 a.m.
Two trains around 2 p.m.
One or two trains around 10 p.m.
3. There are also reports circulating in the area of Aschersleben, Bernburg and Stassfurt, that the Mansfelder Copper Mines, at least in part, have been taken over by Wismut A. G. and that a more-concentrating installation is located in the vicinity of Eisleben. Special busses are operated from towns in the districts of Bernburg, Stassfurt and Calbe, running both to Ballenstedt and to the Eisleben area, which reportedly transport Wismut workers to and from their jobs. In these districts, half of those residents not already employed at the steel plant in Calbe reportedly are being forced to accept employment with Wismut A. G. either in the vicinity of Ballenstedt or Eisleben.
4. Heavy movement of freight shipments from Ballenstedt via Magdeburg and Rostock, accompanied by squads of from 8 to 10 Transport Police have been observed moving over the Reichsbahn lines in Aschersleben. These shipments originating in Ballenstedt are crated and stencilled in the Cyrillic alphabet, for which reason local residents and rail officials believe them to be shipments destined for the Soviet Union. 25X1

SECRET

STATE	#X	ARMY	#X	NAVY	X	AIR	Ev	#X	FBI		AEC		OSI	Ev	X	ORR	Ev	X
-------	----	------	----	------	---	-----	----	----	-----	--	-----	--	-----	----	---	-----	----	---

(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

Page Denied